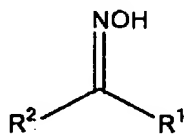


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3. (Amended) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the orthohydroxyarylaldoxime or orthohydroxyarylketoimine is a compound represented by the Formula (1),



Formula (1)

wherein,

R¹ is hydrogen or an optionally substituted hydrocarbyl group

R² is an optionally substituted ortho-hydroxyaryl group,

and salts thereof.

5. (Amended) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the orthohydroxyarylketoimine is a 5-(C₉ to C₁₄ alkyl)-2-hydroxyacetophenone oxime.

6. (Amended) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the orthohydroxyarylaldoxime is a 5-(C₉ to C₁₄ alkyl)-2-hydroxybenzaldoxime.

B³

7. (Amended) A composition according to any one of claims 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 21 or 22, wherein the ester substituted with a hydroxy group comprises a highly-branched hydroxy-ester comprising from 9 to 25 carbon atoms.

8. (Amended) A composition according to any one of claims 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 21 or 22, wherein the hydroxy functionality of the ester substituted with a hydroxy group resides on R⁸, and where R⁸ is branched aliphatic group.

9. (Amended) A composition according to any one of claims 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 21 or 22, wherein the ester substituted with a hydroxy group is 2,2,4-trimethyl-1,3-pentanediol mono-isobutyrate or 2,2,4-trimethyl-1,3-pentanediol monobenzoate.

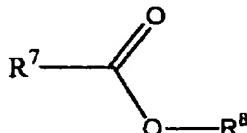
10. (Amended) A process for the extraction of a metal from solution in which either an acidic solution containing a dissolved metal or an aqueous ammoniacal solution containing a dissolved metal is contacted with a solvent extraction composition comprising a water immiscible organic solvent and a water-immiscible solvent extractant, whereby at least a

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B³

fraction of the metal is extracted into the solvent extraction composition, wherein the solvent extraction composition comprises one or more orthohydroxyarylaloximes or orthohydroxyarylketoximes and one or more esters substituted with a hydroxy group, wherein the esters substituted with a hydroxy group are compounds of formula (2):



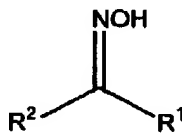
Formula (2)

wherein one of R⁷ or R⁸ is a substituted hydrocarbyl group with at least one hydroxyl group and the other is an optionally substituted hydrocarbyl group.

13. (Amended) A process according to claim 10, wherein the metal is copper, zinc, cobalt or nickel.

B⁴

14. (Amended) A process according to claim 10, wherein the orthohydroxyaryl oxime or orthohydroxyarylketoxime is selected from the class of compounds represented by the Formula (1),



Formula (1)

wherein

R¹ is hydrogen or an optionally substituted hydrocarbyl group

R² is an optionally substituted ortho-hydroxyaryl group,

and salts thereof.

B⁵

16. (Amended) A process according to claim 10, wherein the orthohydroxyarylketoxime is a 5-(C₉ to C₁₄ alkyl)-2-hydroxyacetophenone oxime.

17. (Amended) A process according to claim 10, wherein the orthohydroxyarylaldoxime is a 5-(C₉ to C₁₄ alkyl)-2-hydroxybenzaldoxime.

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18. (Amended) A process according to any one of claims 10, 12, 13, 14, 16 or 17, wherein the ester substituted with a hydroxy group comprises a highly-branched hydroxy-ester comprising from 9 to 25 carbon atoms.

19. (Amended) A process according to any one of claims 10, 12, 13, 14, 16 or 17, wherein the hydroxy functionality of the ester substituted with a hydroxy group resides on R⁸, and where R⁸ is a branched aliphatic group.

20. (Amended) A process according to any one of claims 10, 12, 13, 14, 16 or 17, wherein the ester substituted with a hydroxy group is 2,2,4-trimethyl-1,3-pentanediol mono-isobutyrate or 2,2,4-trimethyl-1,3-pentanediol monobenzoate.

See the attached Appendix for the changes made to the above claim(s).

Please add the following new claim(s):

-21. (New) A composition according to Claim 5 wherein the orthohydroxyarylketoxime is 5-nonyl-2-hydroxy-acetophenone oxime.

22. (New) A composition according to Claim 6 wherein the orthohydroxyarylalldoxime is 5-nonyl-2-hydroxy-benzalldoxime.

23. (New) A process according to Claim 13 wherein the metal is copper.

24. (New) A process according to Claim 16 wherein the orthohydroxyarylketoxime is 5-nonyl-2-hydroxy-acetophenone oxime.

25. (New) A process according to Claim 17 wherein the orthohydroxyarylalldoxime is 5-nonyl-2-hydroxy-benzalldoxime.--